

# Spring Mill State Park

All programs are free unless otherwise noted.

Programs at all our state parks and reservoirs: <http://www.in.gov/dnr/parklake/interpretiveservices/programs/schedule/>

## March 2007

### Nature Center

Open Daily 10am-5pm

### Twin Caves Boat Tours

Closed for the Season

### Pioneer Village

Open Mar 23-31 9am-5pm

### Virgil I. Grissom Memorial

Open Daily 8:30am-4pm

**Please arrive on time for scheduled programs.**  
*Spring Mill State Park follows Eastern Daylight Time.*

**Public programs are designed for individuals and families.**

If you will be bringing an organized group, you can contact the Nature Center in advance and schedule a private program just for your group (\$1/person charge). (812) 849-4129

**Get advanced notice of special events and programs!**

Sign up for our email list at the Nature Center, Pioneer Village Grist Mill, Spring Mill Inn, or at <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/springmillstatepark/>

**HP-HP Healthy Parks – Healthy People**

Get “INShape” with us, and discover what it takes to keep a state park healthy.



Look for our hikes and strolls!

Watch for the roving naturalist!



## Thursday, March 1 – Friday, March 2

*Those who contemplate the beauty of the earth find reserves of strength that will endure as long as life lasts. Rachel Carson*

## Saturday, March 3

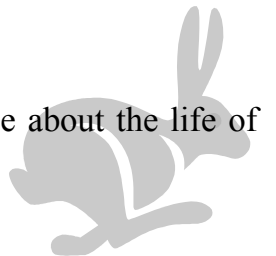
**10:30am Closed Caves** – See what lies within Hamer and Whistling Caves, and learn why these caves are closed to the public, during this slideshow. Nature Center, Program Room (45 min). **HP-HP**

**1:00pm Karst Kountry** – Learn more about Karst topography and its many sinkholes, caves, and other features of the landscape as we explore an area of the park only accessible during the winter and with a park employee. Meet at the Hamer Cemetery parking lot (1 hr). **HP-HP**



## Sunday, March 4

**1:00pm Rascally Rabbit!** – Make a beaded rabbit keychain and learn a little about the life of the eastern cottontail rabbit. Nature Center, Program Room (45 min).



## Monday, March 5 – Saturday, March 10

*If we do not permit the Earth to produce beauty and joy, it will in the end not produce food either. ~ Joseph Woodkrutch*

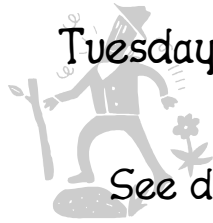
## Sunday, March 11

**10:30am Donaldson Woods Walk** – Explore the unique ecological habitat inside Donaldson Woods, a forest that has never been logged. Learn how the woods has changed over time and why preservation is important. Meet at Twin Caves parking lot (1 hr). **HP-HP**



## Monday, March 12 – Tuesday, March 13

Tuesday, March 13 is the registration deadline for our...



### WALKING STICK WORKSHOP

See details under program listing for Thursday, March 15.

## Wednesday, March 14

Today is the registration deadline for...

### *Alien Threats to Southern Indiana Forestlands*

See details under program listing for Saturday, March 24.

## Thursday, March 15

**11:00am Walking Stick Workshop** – Create your own unique walking stick! We'll do the basic work first, take a break to enjoy a buffet lunch in the Millstone Dining Room, and then customize the walking sticks using a variety of materials. For those that want to put their walking stick to use right away, we'll finish up with a half-hour trail hike. Spring Mill Inn, Oak Room (3 ½ hr).



*The workshop is limited to 15 people and pre-registration is required by Tuesday, March 13! Cost is \$18/person and includes the buffet lunch. Stop by or call the Spring Mill Inn (812-849-4081) to register.*

## Friday, March 16 *Nature Poetry Contest Closes*

*This is the final day to submit your entry into our first annual Nature Poetry Contest! Submissions accepted at the Nature Center and Park Office. Details available at the Nature Center (812-849-4129)*

## Saturday, March 17

Spring is when you feel like whistling even with a shoe full of slush. ~Doug Larson

## Sunday, March 18

**1:30pm Put a Little SPRING in Your Step!** – Join us on a search for some of the many signs of spring... like wildflowers, budding trees, and awakening animals. Meet in front of the Spring Mill Inn (1 hr).



## Monday, March 19

**2:30pm Dragonfly Discovery** – Believe it or not, dragonflies are alive and well right now, living underwater in our lake and creeks. Learn about their life cycle, while making a dragonfly craft. Nature Center, Program Room (30 min). **HP-HP**



## Tuesday, March 20

*You can't be suspicious of a tree, or accuse a bird or squirrel of subversion or challenge the ideology of a violet. ~Hal Borland*

## Wednesday, March 21

**11:00am Woodpecker Walk** – Join us on a hunt for signs of woodpecker activity while we keep our eyes (and ears) open for one of these “flying power tools.” Meet in front of Grissom Memorial (45 min).



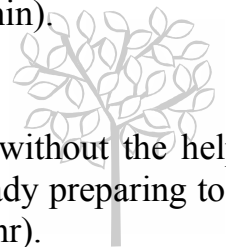
## Thursday, March 22

**2:30pm Caw! Caw!** – Learn a little more about the bird that makes this distinct call – the American Crow – while making a cute crow puppet to take home. Nature Center, Program Room (45 min).



## Friday, March 23

**11:30am Tree Trek** – As we learn how to identify trees without the help of leaves, we'll also take a look at how they are already preparing to “go green.” Meet in front of the Grissom Memorial (1 hr).




## Saturday, March 24

### **Alien Threats to Southern Indiana Forestlands: What Landowners Should Know About Alien Invasive Species**

During this day-long workshop (8:30am-4:30pm), you'll learn about the threats posed by alien invasive species, how to identify major threats to your land, and explore options and ideas on how to control existing aliens and prevent the invasions of new ones. *Families are encouraged to attend together! While adults participate in sessions, children will enjoy separate programming designed just for them.*


**Cost is \$10/person or \$20/family and includes lunch. Limited to 150 people; pre-registration required by March 14.** Call the White River RC&D at 812-279-8117 (ext 5) for more information or to register. Workshop will be held at Spring Mill Inn.

**11:00am**  **Hike Into the Past** – Learn to see this land as Samuel Jackson saw it in 1814 and discover how geography was responsible for the establishment of Spring Mill Village. Meet next to Butternut Grove Shelter (1 hr).

**3:30pm** **The History of Spring Mill State Park** – Discover how this land evolved from a Native American hunting area, to an 1800s village, to an Indiana University research facility, and finally into a premier Indiana state park. Nature Center, Program Room (45 min).

## Sunday, March 25

**11:30am** **Native Americans at Spring Mill** – How did Native Americans utilize the land that is now Spring Mill State Park? What signs did they leave behind? Nature Center, Program Room (30 min).

**2:00pm**  **Blind Fish Call It “Home”** – Donaldson Cave is the site where blind cavefish were first discovered in Indiana! Learn about the researcher who found them, see the ruins of his research facility, and explore the dry side of Donaldson Cave. Bring a flashlight! Meet in Donaldson parking lot (1 hr).

## Monday, March 26


Space isn't remote at all.  
It's only an hour's drive away if your car could go straight upwards.

~Sir Fred Hoyle


## Tuesday, March 27

**11:00am** **Birds of Prey** – Discover more about owls, hawks, and other birds of prey that soar in the air above Spring Mill State Park. Nature Center, Program Room (45 min).

## Wednesday, March 28

**3:00pm**  **Down to Donaldson** – Explore the dry side of Donaldson, look for cave critters, and discover how our cave system was formed. Don't forget to bring a flashlight! Meet in the Donaldson parking lot (1 hr).

## Thursday, March 29


**10:30am**  **Whispers of Wildflowers** – Search the woods for some of our early spring wildflowers and learn the stories and folklore behind their names. Meet in front of the Grissom Memorial (45 min).

## Friday, March 30

**3:30pm** **Dandelion Corsage** – Celebrate one of the first flowers of the year, the dandelion, by making a simple corsage to wear (these flowers won't wilt!). Nature Center, Program Room (45 min).

## Saturday, March 31

**11:00am** **Sunshine Jewelry** – Prepare for the longer days of sunlight ahead by making a bracelet with sunlight-sensitive beads. Nature Center, Program Room (20 min).

**1-3pm**  **The CCC and the Pioneer Village** – Watch for the roving naturalist in the Pioneer Village and learn how the CCC's restoration work helped resurrect it from a state of ruin.